

THE CHINA MAIL

the colony should be relieved from undue taxation. On the contrary, we should heartily rejoice were his taxes whatever imposed. But we cannot shut our eyes to two facts—that the memorial will be as useless towards the end in view as can well be imagined, and that its presentation can hardly fail to elicit ridicule if it be ever seriously discussed—a paradox perhaps, but none the less true. Meantime, we are glad that the committee, with whom rests the onus of forwarding it, have afforded time for a few common-sense remarks upon its probable fate before it is brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

LOCAL.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

WE are requested to contradict a report which has gained currency of the assassination by Chinese of Captain Outré of the French ship *Malabar* now at Macao. It is stated that there is no foundation for the report or for the other embellishments with which the story has been garnished.

MADAME Veralli's concert last evening went off satisfactorily ; her singing being very good, though scarcely up to her former force. About 150 persons were present who filled the room well and appeared to be well satisfied with the execution of the programme. We congratulate Madame Veralli upon her success, and trust that she will give a few more performances before leaving.

GAMBLING AT THE BISHOP'S PALACE.
Two chair-coolies and a cook in the employ of the Lord Bishop, were brought up to-day before Mr May for disobedience of his Lordship's orders, inasmuch that they were found gambling on the premises. It seems that robberies have occurred in the Bishop's Palace more than once, and panels of glass have been cut out of the windows by the thieves. An order was therefore given by his Lordship that none of his ser-

vants should gamble on the promises. Last night the three servants were caught in the act, but they stated that it was only for "fun" not for money. His Worship remarked that he could take no cognisance of the gambling, so long as it was inside ; in fact, he could not well "rush" the Bishop's Palace as a gambling-house. But he could deal with the case as disobedience of orders. As it appeared that the Bishop did not wish to press the case, but to have a few words of advice conveyed to his servants, His Worship cautioned the prisoners and discharged them.

SUPREME COURT.
IN CHANCERY.
Before the Hon. the CHIEF JUSTICE.
January 31st, 1868.
LOW ONG YUN v. SOONG ANN & OTHERS.
This was a motion to dissolve an injunction granted to defendants on a junk now in harbor.
The Attorney General, instructed by Mr.

Brereton (for Mr Caldwell), for defendants and Mr Whyte, instructed by Mr Hazeland for the plaintiff. The junk in question was the joint property of the parties in the action; but, according to an agreement produced, defendants had handed over their share to the plaintiff in Singapore on the score of unpromising times. The Attorney General, however, submitted that this agreement was a pure fabrication, and from the affidavits filed endeavoured to show the inaccuracies they contained. From a mis-

take in the junk's name, various features which were contrary to Chinese custom, he argued that the whole affair was a fraudulent collection, and that he had no *locus standi* if such was not the case. On those grounds he submitted that the injunction should be dissolved.

Mr Whyte supported the injunction. As to the agreement, they maintained that it was perfectly reliable, and it was simply plump denial against plump statement, which left the decision to the Court. The

himself and the decision of the Court. The junk went by two names, which was not an uncommon thing in Hongkong. Again, there was no invariable custom as to documents in Chinese, they being an importation by the English into Hongkong and Singapore. It would be for the Court to consider whose interests would have been best served by such a fraud as was alleged and it certainly was not his client, who had placed large security in the Sheriff's hands. The case was trumped up to defraud him.

The Attorney General replied by saying that those who swore in affidavit to the falsity of the agreement were in Court; but where were the others? The interests of the plaintiff would have been considerably forwarded by the injunction.

The Chief Justice suggested that he could withdraw the injunction, and allow both parties to go into Court on a motion for a decree. On so serious a charge as fraud, he would require absolute proof, and he would

therefore carefully consider before giving judgment. The attorneys might be able to come to a settlement.

IN COMMON LAW.

...T. QUIN v. H. COHEN.—This was a motion to call upon defendant to show cause why the appeal should not be remitted to the arbitrator. The Attorney General, instructed by Mr. Francis (for Mr. Gaskell), appeared to make the application. From the affidavits it appeared that Mr. Owen was the arbitra-

It appeared that the plaintiff, the attorney, awarded to plaintiff \$2,519 as wages, and for services as master of the ship *Sheen Shah*, subject to deductions. This was on the 15th November; and as such was regarded as inadequate, the present motion was made.

Rule nisi granted.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

AGENTS AND MASTERSMAN, BANK OF
AGENTS, MASTERSMAN, MASTERSMAN, MASTERSMAN

& COMPANY, *Debtors*,—*in favor of* *Bank of China Bankruptcy*.—The Attorney General, instructed by Mr. Caldwell, appeared for the Bank; and Mr. Whyte, instructed by Mr. Francis (Mr. Gaskell's clerk) appeared on behalf of the Bankrupts.—In this case, the Agri-Bank appeared as a judgment creditor; and judgment obtained against the estate, in the same manner as in the former case of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank against the same defendants;

in the hands of the Official Assignee, some discussion took place between the Chief Justice and the Attorney General as to who was Registrar of the Court in Bankruptcy. The Attorney General said that, under the Ordinance, the Registrar of the Supreme

we can do, is to endeavour to induce them to keep up one or two gunboats themselves, though this, perhaps, is almost as futile an attempt. That foreign nations should be quietly used in order to do the work which properly devolves upon the Chinese; that our gunboats should be dispatched, here and there, and everywhere, to show a disturbance arises, is one of the most unsatisfactory features of our relations with this country. It is time that the subject were taken into serious consideration by the Home Government, and that some efforts were made to induce the Chinese to fulfil this portion of the obligations which devolve upon them as a Government.—*S. C. & C. Gazette.*

LOOSE FISH IN THE ABYSSINIAN
NET.

We all know how fondly our historians of the picturesque and word-painting school are wont to dwell on the lineaments of that

ominous being—the man who lives an obscurely predatory rat-like life, underground, in quiet times and shrinks from the light of day in gutters and cellars, only issuing forth on the eve of revolutions as the first premonitory symptom of universal unrest and tumult. This hideous creature has come by this time to be an understood conventionality of the historical canvas, and will unquestionably 'reappear' the next time. "Our Own Correspondent" has occasion to describe a continental or insular revolution.

In the same way, whenever any great international disturbance is at hand, any inter-continental movement which agitates the border-lands of the East and the West, bringing Europe and Asia into contact or collision on anything like a grand scale, one is sure to see unaccustomed forms of strange beings thrown up to the surface, forms of people who have lain underground all their lives, unknown and unnoticed by their fellow-creatures; men who have been everywhere, who sneak all landraces, who have

done and to do everything, and who feel that the time has at length come when their candles shall no longer remain hidden under a bushel, but shall be set up on high, to be a light for governments and peoples. Any one who carries his memory back to the years preceding the Afghan war, or who consults the travels or official documents of that period, will remember how all Central Asia then pululated with nondescripts—with, for instance, the strange figure of Mr. Gendun, the Mongolian Jesuit, Bishop of

and fish-bred, roving zigzag between the Oxus and the Indus, in places where no identification may have ever been able to identify or make head or tail of; with his companion Schlotzky and Datterwitz, whom they were—we fancy Datterwitz must be that strange man whom Dr. Yppel told Toddarville, and who most likely spelt himself Toddarville, but one is not much wiser for that—with men of equal trade and faithfulness like Agla Moid of Kabul, Jew, Christian, and

and Musselman by turns, with Polish Rutenants the solution of whose mystery baffled even Sir Henry Rawlinson, with Yauko-Sikh generals, Transylvanian herb-doctors, and Heaven and Sir Henry only know who else besides—the incarnate spirit of mystification quietly watching the whole in the body of Julius Klaproth at Berlin. So likewise in the Crimean or pseudo-Crimean days we had another bountiful crop of adventurers and wild men. These there is no occasion specially to notice in

this place, for their memory must be yet
 fresh in the public mind; moreover, are not
 their doings written in the chronicles of the
 "Roving Englishman"? Let us be con-
 tent with a passing tribute in honour of the
 grandest figure of them all, George, Augustus,
 and Neville de Strathbogie Plantagenet
 Harrison, Duke of Anjou, legitimate heir-
 to the crowns of France, Spain, England,
 Breton, and the Holy Roman Empire: a
 his whose colossal form towers above all
 other free-lance and adventurers of the

age, but who, we regret to see by the public prints of only last week, has fallen upon evil times, having to go through the Insolvent Court, after vainly seeking to keep himself above water by the practice of heraldry out Pentonville way. A sad end truly for one—we are not joking in the least—who in 1864 kept all Constantinople in a ferment with his aides-de-camp and his secretaries, who held his own against ambassadors and generals and admirals, negotiating the Bosphorus, the Dardanelles, and the Hellespont.

ling with the Turks, as a wife, with the air of an independent Power, to their utter bewilderment—a man who is actually said to have heard the great Elchee in person, in his den, with discomfiture, however, like everybody else, rather than, with success. The latest batch of deviant and adventuring humanity now called into being by the forthcoming Abyssinian campaign does not quite mark up to the pre-Crimoean or the pre-Afghan mark, but it is good enough of its kind, and certainly calls for no-

The prominent figure is, of course, Sir Bridgwater. Our contemporaries have been at him already; rather, however, for the purpose of making fun out of him: than of analyzing him. We think he calls for criticism, if only to deter such centrignals as would fin exploit us, from again making similar exhibitions of themselves. His story is full of fun, but the fun to us arises from the absurd want of plausibility about it;

from the complete lack of elementary knowledge about English ways which the genuine son of an English or English-read mother would naturally have sucked in with mother's milk. The story, taken as a serious one—and it was meant as such—is all over gaps, odd circles, and anes. Taken as a story *pour rire*, there is certainly something very relishing in the idea of an Abyssinian of high rank coming to England by way of Poland, of all places in the world, after there marrying a daughter of

the noble Polish house of Schmidt, then in such wise engaging the affections of George III. that his Majesty not only christens the Abyssinian's little boy after himself, but actually invents the surname of Bridgetower for him—which, if true, may be taken as the first sign of the King's subsequent mental disease—then wanting to make the lad an admiral at once, after the despotic fashion usual in the British navy—which, indeed, one would think King George would have done to his own son while he

was about — and so on to the end of the chapter. Sir Bridgwater is not a lunatic, but a poor creature, not fit to be named in the same day with General Plantagenet and Harrison. We do not care if we never hear any more about him, unless it be to get a copy of that inscription stated by Bishop Blancheri to be in the church of St. Joseph of Massowah, certifying the descent of Sir Bridgwater, from King Solomon, a descent of which we are surely far from being in any doubt.

having any internal contradiction in our claimant's style and substance. Our final word about him is to hazard the suggestion

being, he served in the Tiflis Cossack Brigade, knew the Soukian, and successfully undertook a difficult mission to Baku in 1864: he should like to know in what way his employment. We over his should not be eager to recommend the employment of confidential work in the north-western frontier regions of our Russian Empire, in spite of his knowledge of Russian and Turkish languages, should the occasion for such work ever arise, as it must be somewhat late; but his account of himself can only give promise of anything of great utility in the circumstances. It would be a pity if the circumstances of his life should be such as to make of him a discredited man.

should happen to stand in the way of his employment. A man of this kind, who has acquired eight languages by dint of hard knocking about the world, has no time in so doing, acquired the invaluable power of adding to their number without limit, on and off; picking up any single one within a time hardly credible to home-staying grammar- and dictionary people.

Romulus Bonhomme clearly is great at languages; but whose dog is Romulus compared with Major Leveson, in whom stands revealed no less a personage than the 'Old Shekary' R. A. L., by this time an acknowledged public favourite! The gallant major has a fair knowledge of several

[illegible]

corner of Europe; the Geneva Abyssinian who would be willing to go, but of no use when there, having forgotten his native language; and the Baden-Baden or Swabian Abyssinian, who might be of great use to Dr. Krayt, but who won't go, because he is afraid that King Theodore will have a red mark on his relatives, if his leaving ended the expedition should become known. Then there is Contarini the Cretan; but he may have joined the Spahibaks for all that people can make out of him. Nobody is able to find him, so far as appears from the Blue-book. But he would be invaluable, as he knows Antirrhia, has been seven years in Abyssinia, is said to know every inch of

prominent here, and, of course, to have been subjected to places which no European has ever visited. It should here be remarked that the African traveller has always been farther into the interior than any other. All have been to places which "Europeans have never visited." This is a characteristic by which the African traveller is scientifically distinguished. It is one of the finest strokes of genius in the letter of the recommendation written by the regent Hall in his own behalf the other day to Lord Stanley, in the assumed character of Lord Vivian, that he should have represented himself as distinguished by having gone so much farther than any European. Each African traveller has surpassed every other, just as

we know from Irish history, as related to us by Keating and the Abbe Mac Geoghegan, that in the famous ancient Fenian militia of Ireland every Fenian was bound to outrun, outfight, outgun, outpace and outlive every other Fenian, failing to do which he forfeited this post and ceased to be a Fenian. The same old principle being also that which is the basis of the future of the Irish Republic, where, as we know, man to man is to be as good as another and a dale better too. The rogue Hill's wit, we think, deserve the appointment asked for with such impudent originality. He would do better in the secret intelligence department of the expedition than wasting time

A REMARKABLE BLIND MAN.—There is a blind man, John Dryden, residing in South Shields, who follows the vocations of cart-man, coal merchant, horse dealer, piggee fancier, &c., with apparently nearly the same ease and ability as those not so unfortunate. He is to be seen any day at his coal depot, Temple Town, serving out pennyworths of coal to his numerous customers, or assisting in filling the coal carts. Incredible as it may appear, it is nevertheless

It would seem that geese only just come within the law for the prevention of cruelty to animals. On Thursday last William Racleiffe, a butcher, of Cowfold, was summoned for the sale of a young goose.

tioned before the Huddersfield bench for cruelty to a gander. It appeared that he had made a bet of a sovereign with a farmer named Simeon as to the weight of their respective Ganders. Radcliffe's gander proving the heavier, Simeon not only paid the sovereign but purchased the bird, which died the next day. On opening it, it was discovered that Radcliffe had won his wager by administering to the wretched gander two pounds of small shot. — The Huddersfield magistrats assessed this act of brutality at 10s., which Radcliffe at once paid, but that the ruffian netted 10s. by the cruel fraud.

MISS SPRINGBON has received another

£1000 for his upkeep from an anonymous friend.

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Hongkong, March 16, 1866.

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CLARET, real Château Margaux.
" Haut Bages.
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BRANDY, Hennessy's and Martel's

1 dozen cases.
BEER and **PORTER** in bottle.
BUTTER (Platte) in kegs.
Also,
 A quantity of Iron **COLUMNS**, Yellow
METAL, 20/28 oz. with **NAILS**.
 Apply to
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 Hongkong, December 11, 1887.

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 Ex THE TWEED, ALBERT VICTORIA
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 RUBBER and Canvas Leading HOSE.
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 Rigging SCREWS, Police IRONS, A
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T. & D. Henry's 1st quality CANVAS and PARCELLING.
Best Merchant Navy CANVAS, Repairing CANVAS,
Hemp PACKING, WICKING.
Hemp and Cotton TWINE.
York HAMS, Cheddar CHEESE, Corn MEAL, HOMINY.
Also, a fine Invoice of Table and Pocket

GOUTLERY. THOS. HUNT & Co.
 Hongkong, January 22, 1868. 2

DIETETIC BAKL, the new **DIET**,
 highly recommended by the Faculty
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 Digestive Organs. Can be procured from
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Presentation Boxes of **BONBONS**
MINCEMEAT. CAVIARE.
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HERBS, Raspberry VINEGAR,
CATSUP, MUSTARD,
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Booth's OLD TOM.
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PRIME YORK HAMS.
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Hongkong, January 9, 1868.

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Hongkong, January 16, 1868.

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By Private Contract.
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together with GOODWILL, FURNITURE,
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The above House is doing a good business,
the sole reason for its being sold is that
the present Proprietor is leaving the Colony
in consequence of ill health.

For particulars, apply on the Premises
Hongkong, January 28, 1868.

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Hongkong. December 18, 18

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